



## State of Tennessee

### HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 435

By Representatives Lois DeBerry, Towns, Armstrong

A RESOLUTION to commend Kolanje D. Thomas-Alexander for exemplary service as a Legislative Intern.

WHEREAS, each legislative session this body is pleased to recognize certain persons who have committed themselves, through their adroit service, to the betterment of the legislative process; and

WHEREAS, Kolanje D. Thomas-Alexander is one such individual who has distinguished himself in his role as a Legislative Intern for Representative Lois DeBerry; Kolanje's work has resulted in innumerable benefits for the legislators he assisted and the General Assembly as a whole; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Thomas was born in Boston, Massachusetts, and grew up in Memphis, graduating from Central High School in Memphis in 2007; and

WHEREAS, upon his graduation from high school, Mr. Thomas was awarded an ACTSIX scholarship, which gave him a full academic ride to Crichton College, during which time he served as a member of the Student Government Association and was elected as the Public Relations Officer, before transferring to Jackson State University (JSU) in Jackson, Mississippi, due to a programming change at Crichton; and

WHEREAS, although attending JSU was not his original plan, the experience proved beneficial, as Kolanje Thomas had the opportunity, under the direction of the Chair of the Political Science Department, to contribute to a scholarly article entitled *Black Nationalism, Black Conservatism: Do the Twain Meet?*, which Mr. Thomas presented along with his team at Millsaps College in Jackson; and

WHEREAS, now a student at the University of Memphis, where he is highly regarded by his peers, Kolanje has achieved academic success while majoring in political science; and

WHEREAS, active in his community, Mr. Thomas serves the Brinkley Heights area of Memphis by tutoring, mentoring, and working with the inner city neighborhood's youth to better offer understanding and become more familiar with their plight, struggles which Mr. Thomas can often relate to as a former homeless person who had to overcome numerous hardships; and

WHEREAS, eager to familiarize himself with the characteristics and complexities of Tennessee state government and to further his studies, Kolanje Thomas brought his many abilities and singular expertise to Capitol Hill for the 2011 session of the One Hundred Seventh General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, throughout the 2011 legislative session, Mr. Thomas has surpassed all criteria that define a devoted and conscientious Legislative Intern; and

WHEREAS, Kolanje Thomas has performed his many duties with extraordinary insight and rare decorum; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby commend Kolanje D. Thomas-Alexander for outstanding service as a Legislative Intern for Representative Lois DeBerry and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

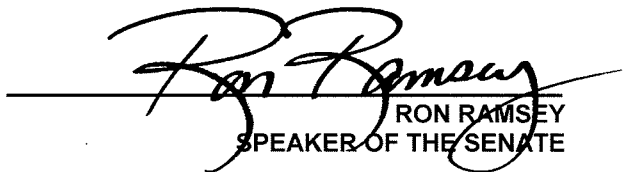
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.

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ADOPTED: MAY 18, 2011



BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



RON RAMSEY  
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 25<sup>th</sup> day of May 2011



BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR